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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/660,315

09/10/2003

Jerry Wu

5372

25859

7590

04/02/2004

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EXAMINER

GILMAN, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 04/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/660,315	Applicant(s) WU, JERRY	
	Examiner Alexander D Gilman	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 13 and 14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 6, 12, 15, 16 and 811 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/10/2003</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 5,6,8,12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yeomans et al.

With regard to claim 1, Yeomans et al (US 6,431,887) disclose a cable end connector assembly for mating with a complementary connector, comprising:.

an insulative housing (14);

a plurality of contacts (24) received in the insulative housing;

a cable comprising a plurality of conductors electrically connecting with corresponding contacts,

a cover (12) enclosing a rear end of the insulative housing', and

a locking member (18) comprising a retaining section (132) secured with the cover, a

main section (the forward portion of 132) extending forwardly from the retaining section, and a locking

section (136) extending forwardly from the main section and having a latch portion (139) adapted for

locking with the complementary connector (60, 50), the insulative housing comprising a

retention portion (128 or 166) pre-stressing the locking section.

With regard to claim 2, Yeomans et al disclose that the locking section (136) is movable with the main section to deflect toward the cover and the insulative housing.

With regard to claim 3, Yeomans et al disclose that the insulative housing defines a depression (170) and the cover defines a recess (150) communicating with the depression, the locking section and a front end of the main section are respectively deflected into the depression and the recess when the locking section is mating with the complementary connector.

With regard to claim 5, Yeomans et al disclose that the cover defines a channel therein (formed by 150) , and wherein the locking section comprises a resilient tab (152) resiliently abutting against of the channel.

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With regard to claim 6, Yeomans et al disclose that the retaining section (132) partially encloses a rear portion of the cover and comprises a main body and a pair of securing portions (134) extending from opposite ends of the main body.

With regard to claim 8, Yeomans et al disclose that the rear portion of the cover is formed with a pair of locking portions (128) on opposite sides thereof, and wherein distal ends of the securing portions bend inwardly and lock with corresponding locking portions.

With regard to claim 12, Yeomans et al disclose that locking section of the locking member comprises a forwardly and downwardly extending guiding portion (138) at a front end thereof.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 15, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yeomans et al

Yeomans et al disclose an electrical connector assembly comprising:

a cable end connector (10) including:

a first insulative housing (14) with a plurality of first contacts therein; a cable including a plurality of conductors connected to the corresponding first contacts, respectively',

a metallic locking member (18) attached to the first housing with at least a fulcrum (138) at a rear end, a latch portion (139) at a front end and a main pressing section between said fulcrum and said latch portion;

an upper wall of the first housing defining a depression (164) receiving the moveable locking member therein (18), and

a complementary connector (60,50) adapted to be mounted to a printed circuit board and mate with the cable end connector, said complementary connector including:

a second insulative housing (60) with a forward mating tongue (76);

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a plurality of second contacts (64) disposed in the second housing;
a protection portion (83) spatially located from the mating tongue in a vertical direction; wherein
when the cable end connector and the complementary connector are mated with each other, the first contacts and the second contacts are mechanically and electrically engaged with each other and the upper wall of the cable end connector received between the mating tongue and the protection portion of the complementary connector under a condition that the latch portion of the locking member is latchably engaged in the engaging opening.

Yeomans et al do not disclose that the protection portion is located above the mating tongue in a vertical direction with an engaging opening therein (Yeomans et al disclose the mating tongue being located above the protection portion).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to locate the protection portion with an opening above the mating tongue, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. In re Japikse, 86 USPQ 70.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yeomans et al in view of Chow et al.

Yeomans et al disclose all of the limitations except for the main section being formed with a plurality of ribs thereon.

Chow et al (US 5,112,243) disclose the main section of the locking member (30) being formed with a plurality of ribs thereon (32).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the locking member with a plurality of ribs thereon as taught by Show et al , to conveniently grip the locking member

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 13, 14 are allowed.

Claims 4, 7, 9, 10, are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

No prior art has been found to anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed subject matter.

Specifically, none of the prior art of record discloses the combination of the limitations presented including the two retention portions having a stopper over the depression and pressing a side edge of the locking section (claim 4)

the main section of the locking member comprises a connecting portion extending upwardly from the main body of the retaining section, and an inclined portion extending forwardly and downwardly from a top end of the connecting portion (claim 7);

the rear portion of the cover is formed with a pair of bars behind corresponding locking portions and protruding sidewardly, and wherein rear edges of the securing portions abut against corresponding bars (claim 9);

the rear portion of the cover is formed with an embossment on the side thereof, and wherein the main body of the retaining portion defines an aperture receiving the embossment (claim 10);

the tongue portion being received in the received space of the connector end assembly (claim 13).

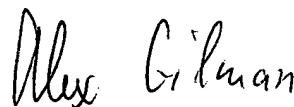
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander D Gilman whose telephone number is 571 272-2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571 272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

03/29/2004

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Gilman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**ALEXANDER GILMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**